



# Ypsi Mix

312 N River Street, Ypsilanti MI

734-483-1520

[www.ypsifoodcoop.org](http://www.ypsifoodcoop.org)

## May 23: Annual “State of the Co-op” Reports!

Many issues surround and impact us, encourage and threaten us! Our cooperative began over 38 years ago, founded by people desiring more than what the corporate grocery stores provided. Much of the need was personal and financial, but it was also about collectively caring about the environment and the community. Grocery cooperatives and natural food stores grew throughout the country and helped propel the growth and marketing of organic foods. The movement for good food became so popular that for-profit corporations realized the profit potential and began carrying natural and organic, “green” and sustainable products. So, your local Food Co-op is not the only option for great food anymore and, today, a plethora of grocers selling similar products compete for your attention and purchases.

Cooperatives still offer a difference, and our Co-op, like other businesses with

“generative” ownership, adds more to your purchasing dollars than do corporations. Generative businesses attempt to create conditions where our common life can flourish. Cooperatives give more than just dollars on the bottom line; we place the environment and people into the mix as well. Co-ops are more sustainable and resilient in crisis and create conditions in which life can thrive.

The resilience of generative design is a key reason that people have often turned to these models in times of crisis. When the Industrial Revolution forced many skilled workers into poverty in the 1840s, weavers and artisans banded together to form the Rochdale Society of Equitable Pioneers, the first modern, consumer-owned cooperative, selling food to members who couldn’t otherwise afford it.

As we continue to make changes to grow our Co-op, remember it is not just growth for growth’s sake—or for the profit of stock holders! We are striving to build our local economy by boosting our number of members/owners and increasing revenue spent with local vendors, which in turn can heighten the availability of healthy, local and sustainably-produced foods to more of our community. Growing will also allow for a tighter business margin, making us more viable and helping us provide more for our Co-op employees.

On May 23, come to the Ypsilanti Food Cooperative General Membership Meeting (for details, see back page), and hear updates of how your Co-op fared in 2012 and where we are going in 2013 and the near future.

—Corinne Sikorski,  
General Manager

# Co-op Board Election on May 23



Your vote and your voice are important

The health of our Co-op depends on a committed, knowledgeable Board of Directors. Serving on the Board is one of the greatest contributions you can make to your Co-op and to our community. This year, there are three Board seats open.

New directors are elected by Co-op member/owners at the General Membership Meeting at 5:30 pm on Thursday, May 23 at the Ladies Literary Club. Prospective directors will be encouraged to join current directors at CBLD

101, a day-long Board Leadership Conference on Saturday May 18 in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan.

If you're interested, pick up a brochure about running for the Board in the store. Take a look at the job description and requirements, and fill out the application. Get in touch with Board members Jeff Clark (jc@quemadura.net), Liz Dahl MacGregor (lizardmg@gmail.com), Paul Fisher (pfisher@pfisher.com) or David Choberka (davidchoberka@gmail.com) for more information. (Any

board member will be happy to talk to you about serving, but Jeff, Liz, Paul, and David are the official nominating committee.)

I hope to see you in the store and at the General Membership Meeting on May 23 (see Events, right, for more details).

Sincerely yours,

Jeff Clark, Secretary  
YFC Board of Directors

*"It feels really good to know that we are able to make changes that are good for the environment as they are for the bottom line,"*  
—the Greffs

## Local Vendor Project: Corner Brewery

In September 2012, our "local" became a new participant in the Co-op's Solar Ypsi project with the installation of 244 panels. The British term "local" to mean our neighborhood pub feels just right when describing the Corner Brewery. Not only is the Corner owned by Ypsilanti residents Matt & Rene Greff, but also the focus is on the local food system and local craft brews.

Matt Greff estimates that 90% of the brewery's hot water needs will be met through the solar thermal panels. The system also includes tankless water heaters, a solar awning, and new energy-efficient windows.

Plus the "beer cave" to the rear is geothermally chilled. Taste some of their fabulous local brews at our General Membership Meeting on 5/23 (see Events, right).

For great photos of this installation, see <http://solar.ypsi.com/installations/brewery>



# Malik Yakini speaks at film series



The Sustainability Film Series happens on the 2nd Friday of every month. The movie immediately follows the Growing Hope Monthly Potluck. Please bring a dish to pass.

May's guest speaker is Malik Yakini, Executive Director of the Detroit Black Community Food Security Network, who is featured in this month's movie, *Urban*

*Roots*. The movie focuses on the urban farming phenomenon in Detroit. *Urban Roots* is a timely, moving, and inspiring film that speaks to a nation grappling with collapsed industrial towns and the need to forge a sustainable future, while addressing the need for healthy, affordable food.

The Sustainability Film Series is a joint project of the downtown Ypsilanti District Library, Growing Hope, Transition Ypsi, and the Ypsi Food Co-op. The films shown address topics like community resilience,

energy, sustainable food, clean water, transportation, justice, and other topics relevant to a world with a warming climate, more costly, less available energy, and economic instability.

Yakini is dedicated to working to identify and alleviate the impact of racism and white privilege on the food system. He views the "good food revolution" as part of the larger movement for freedom, justice and equality. Join us!

## May Events

### Saturday May 4 9am-1pm & Tuesday May 7 2-4pm

#### Weekly Farmers Markets Begin!

Ypsi Food Co-op has always participated by selling local organic products and our own Co-op Bakery Bread at the Farmers Markets. Come visit our booth at both markets. This year, Growing Hope will manage four markets, in Wayne & Westland, as well as the Ypsilanti Farmers Markets.

### Wednesday May 8, 6-9pm

#### A2Ypsi Chamber Grub Crawl

4th semi-annual Grub Crawl will take place in Downtown Ypsilanti and Depot Town. \$20 for adults. Trolley provided.

### Friday May 10, Potluck 6:00pm, Film 7:00pm

#### Film: "Urban Roots" at downtown Ypsi Library, 229 W Michigan Ave, Ypsi

Immediately following the 6pm Growing Hope Community Potluck—please bring a dish to pass! (Details above.) Featured speaker: Malik Yakini, Executive Director of the Detroit Black Community Food Security Network.

### Saturday May 11, 2:00 - 4:00pm

#### The Color Run comes to Ypsilanti

Watch for road closures, but the Co-op will be open and accessible to our customers!

### Saturday May 11, 1- 3pm

#### Meet Your Co-op Board

Board members Liz Dahl MacGregor and Jeff Clark will be available at the Co-op to answer your questions about serving on the Board, and the answers to life, the universe, and everything...

### Saturday May 11, 2:00 - 4:00pm

#### Co-op Tour of Seeley Farm

Seeley Farm started their production at the Tilian Farm Development Center in Ann Arbor Township. They are now transitioning to their own property at 4400 Warren Road. Join us at 1:30pm to carpool from YFC to Seeley's new farm site! Free to members & shoppers—RSVP in the store.

### Monday May 13 6:00-6:45pm

#### New Member Orientation

"Get to Know Your Co-op!" with a presentation and a tour of the store. 12% grocery discount for attending—all welcome!

### Thurs May 23, 5:30pm

#### Co-op Annual General Membership Meeting Ladies' Literary Club, 218 W Washington, Ypsi

All member/owners and shoppers are invited. **Please bring a dish to pass** (or, if unable, a \$5 donation). We'll be tasting local craft brews afterwards!

Thanks!

The Ypsi Food Co-op gratefully applauds the following musicians who volunteered their talent at our 38th Birthday Party on April 20: Gary Turner & son Zane Pelletier, Hope Thomas, Joe Montgomery, Sam Ekò, and Steve Somers.

**YPSILANTI FOOD CO-OP**

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# General Membership Meeting

**Where:** Ladies' Literary Club, 218 W Washington, Ypsi.

**When:** Thursday May 23, 2013

**5:30pm** Gather & mingle!

**5:45pm** Updates on Go Solar, Solar Ypsi,  
Local Honey Project, plus presentation on  
bottled water.

**6:15pm** YFC's Annual Report, store up-  
dates by Corinne Sikorski, general man-  
ager, and Liz Dahl-MacGregor, Board Presi-  
dent, followed by election of Board of  
Directors. Activity table available for kids  
to keep them busy during the Meeting.

**7:00pm** Potluck Dinner - **Please bring a  
dish to pass** (or, if unable, a \$5 donation per person).

**PLUS**, Don Peron, Corner Brewery manager, will provide a tasting of craft  
brews from Arbor Brewing Company during and after dinner.



**FROM:**

The Ypsi Food Co-op  
312 North River Street  
Ypsilanti, MI 48198

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**We're on Facebook!**  
**The Ypsilanti Food Coop**